

**In the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A golf tee apparatus comprising:  
an elongated sleeve member having a cavity and an aperture for accessing the cavity, a pointed base section for inserting the sleeve member into the ground, wherein the aperture is formed at one end of the sleeve member and the pointed base section is disposed at an ~~the~~ opposite end of the sleeve member, wherein a crimped portion is disposed at a location between the aperture and the pointed base section, wherein the sleeve portion is constructed of a resilient but flexible material, a tee member including a stem portion and a circular head portion opposite the stem portion, said circular head portion having a ball supporting surface to accommodate a golf ball, wherein the stem portion is tightly received within the cavity of the sleeve member so that the tee member is supported in a stable, vertically elevated position.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The golf tee apparatus as recited in Claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein the tee member is constructed of a wood material.
4. (Currently Amended) The golf tee apparatus as recited in Claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein the tee member is constructed of a plastic material.
5. (Currently Amended) The golf tee apparatus as recited in Claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein the sleeve member bends at the location when a golf club strikes the golf ball positioned on

the ball supporting surface in order to minimize the friction between the golf ball and the ball supporting surface at impact.

6. (Currently Amended) A flexible golf tee comprising:

an elongated sleeve member having a circular head portion disposed on a first end of the elongated member, a pointed base section disposed at a second end of the elongated member, said pointed base section for inserting the elongated member into the ground, said circular head portion having a ball-supporting surface to accommodate a golf ball, and a ~~crimped portion~~ disposed at a midway location between the pointed base section and the circular head portion, wherein the elongated member bends at the location when a golf club strikes the golf ball positioned on the ball-supporting surface in order to minimize the friction between the golf ball and the ball-supporting surface at impact, wherein the elongated member is constructed of a resilient but flexible material and wherein said head portion includes a stem portion insertable in said elongated sleeve member.

7. (Currently Amended) A golf tee apparatus designed to minimize friction between the golf ball and the golf tee at impact, the golf tee apparatus comprising:

an elongated sleeve member having a cavity for receiving the golf tee and an aperture for accessing the cavity,

a pointed base section for inserting the sleeve member into the ground,

a crimped portion disposed at a location between the aperture and the pointed base section,

wherein the sleeve member bends at the location when a golf club strikes the golf ball positioned on the tee,

wherein the sleeve portion is constructed of a resilient but flexible material, the golf tee comprising a stem portion and a circular head portion opposite the stem portion, said circular head portion having a ball supporting surface to accommodate a golf ball, wherein the stem portion is tightly received within the cavity of the sleeve member so that the golf tee is supported in a stable, vertically elevated position.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The golf tee apparatus as recited in Claim 7 8, wherein the tee member is constructed of a wood material.

10. (Currently Amended) The golf tee apparatus as recited in Claim 7 8, wherein the tee member is constructed of a plastic material.